

What is claimed:

1. A pneumatic radial ply runflat tire (100) having a tread (102), two inextensible annular beads (124a,124b), a carcass structure (118) comprising a metal reinforced first or inner carcass ply (120), a second or outer carcass ply (122) and an inner liner (124), a belt structure (104) located between the tread and the carcass structure, and two sidewall regions (112,114) each being reinforced by at least one wedge insert (128a,128b), the tire being characterized by:

the metal reinforced first carcass ply (120) being sandwiched between two circumferentially disposed fabric treatment layers (130a,130b,132a,132b) within the respective sidewall regions (112,114).

2. The tire (100) of claim 1 characterized in that the two circumferentially disposed fabric treatment layers (130a,130b,132a,132b) in the respective sidewall regions (112,114) comprise parallel-aligned cords.

3. The tire (100) of claim 2 characterized in that the respective parallel-aligned cords of each of the two circumferentially disposed fabric treatments (130a,130b,132a,132b) in the respective sidewall regions (112,114) are oriented at opposite angles of between 20 degrees and 50 degrees to each other in the circumferential direction.

4. The tire (100) of claim 1 characterized in that the two circumferentially disposed fabric treatments (130a,130b,132a,132b) in the respective sidewall regions (112,114) have radial width of between 20 percent and 80 percent of the maximum radial reach of the respective wedge inserts (128a,128b).

5. A radial ply runflat tire (140) having a tread

(142), a carcass structure (156) comprising a metal reinforced first carcass ply (160), a second carcass ply (162), two inextensible annular beads (159a,159b) and an inner liner (164), a belt structure (144) located between the tread and the carcass structure, and two sidewall regions (152,154) each being reinforced by a wedge insert (168a,168b), the tire characterized by:

a woven fabric treatment (170a,170b) circumferentially disposed axially inward of the metal reinforced first carcass ply (160) within the respective sidewall regions.

6. The tire (140) of claim 5 characterized in that the circumferentially disposed woven fabric treatment (170a,170b) in the respective sidewall regions (112,114) have radial width of between 20 percent and 80 percent of the maximum radial reach of the respective wedge inserts (168a,168b).

7. The tire (140) of claim 5 characterized in that woven threads of the fabric cross each other at an angle of between 20 and 50 degrees with respect to the cords of the first carcass ply (160).

add a'